

## Singapore Raptor Report Spring Migration, February 2016



*Common Kestrel, adult male, Pulau Punggol Barat, 23 Feb 16, by Alfred Ng.*

### Summary for migrant species:

The **Black Baza** again claimed the top spot with 54 birds; the largest gathering was a flock of 21 birds at the Lorong Halus area. The **Oriental Honey Buzzard** was well represented by 30 birds, some of which had perched in urban areas such as the top of apartments. Five **Japanese Sparrowhawks** were recorded; at this time of the year, most of them showed signs of moult (which could make their wings look more pointed) and may be confused with the Chinese Sparrowhawk.

Four **Peregrine Falcons** were recorded; among these, the 3 photographed were adults of the migrant race. Three **Ospreys** were recorded; 2 on the northern shores and 1 in the Central Catchment area. Two **Jerdon's Bazas** continued to winter at Tampines Eco Green; providing opportunities for birders to see this uncommon migrant. The juvenile **Chinese Sparrowhawk** with the falconry jesses on both tarsus was photographed again at Bidadari on the 18th.

The uncommon **Common Kestrel**, a male, wintering at Punggol Barat was photographed on the 7th and the 23rd. An adult dark morph **Common Buzzard** was photographed at Changi on the evening of the 24th. There was a sighting report of a juvenile **Rufous-bellied Hawk-Eagle** at Labrador Park on the 16th; it may be useful to note that confusion with juvenile Changeable Hawk Eagle cannot be ruled out without photos. Lastly, a nocturnal raptor, the **Northern Boobook** (first discovered at Pasir Ris Park mangroves on 31st Jan) was photographed on the 1st and 2nd of Feb, after which it was not located again.



*Changeable Hawk Eagle, dark morph, Lorong Halus, 3 Feb 16, by Francis Yap.*

**Highlights for sedentary species:**

The rare **Crested Serpent Eagle** was recorded on camera at Neo Tiew area on the 24th and another at Malcolm Park on the 28th. There were 4 records for the **Crested Goshawk**, most notably one was sitting on a nest at the Botanic Gardens on the 14th. The *torquatus* tweeddale morph **Oriental Honey Buzzard** was photographed in the Pasir Ris area again and a typical plumaged *torquatus* was also photographed in the same area. The young **Grey-headed Fish Eagle** at Little Guilin that had fledged in January was still in the vicinity. The **White-bellied Sea Eagle, Brahminy Kite, Changeable Hawk-Eagle** and **Black-winged Kite** completed the roundup for the month.

**Table 1**

S/N	Species	No.	S/N	Species	No.
1	Osprey	3		<i>Residents / Sedentary Species</i>	
2	Jerdon's Baza	2	12	Black-winged Kite	3
3	Black Baza	54	13	Brahminy Kite	18
4	Oriental Honey Buzzard	30	14	White-bellied Sea Eagle	13
5	Chinese Sparrowhawk	1	15	Grey-headed Fish Eagle	7
6	Japanese Sparrowhawk	5	16	Crested Serpent Eagle	2
7	Common Buzzard	1	17	Crested Goshawk	4
8	Rufous-bellied Hawk-Eagle	1	18	Changeable Hawk-Eagle	10
9	Common Kestrel	1			
10	Peregrine Falcon	4		<i>Unidentified</i>	
11	Northern Boobook	1	19	Unidentified Raptors	2
			20	Unidentified <i>Accipiters</i>	1
<b>Total for Migrants</b>		<b>103</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>163</b>

### 1. Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* (3)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
4	1	Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve	Tan Gim Cheong
14	1	Bukit Timah summit	Low Choon How
14	1	Mandai mudflats, 8:04am	Kerry Pereira
23	1	MacRitchie Reservoir	Marcel Finlay

### 2. Jerdon's Baza *Aviceda jerdoni* (2)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1	1	Tampines Eco Green	Tan Gim Cheong
21	2	Tampines Eco Green, at least 1 adult	Alvin Seng
22	2	Tampines Eco Green, at least 1 adult	Alvin Seng
23	2	Tampines Eco Green, at least 1 adult, morning	Alvin Seng
27	1	Tampines Eco Green	Wong Chung Cheong
27	1	Tampines Eco Green	Lee Tiah Khee



*Jerdon's Baza, Tampines Eco Green, 27 Feb 16, by Lee Tiah Khee.*

### 3. Black Baza *Aviceda leuphotes* (54)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
6	4	Kranji Marsh	Low Choon How
6	21	Halus	Zhang Licong
8	16	Punggol Promenade next to Whisk & Paddle, 3-4pm	Kerry Pereira

9	1	Kranji Marsh, 8:27am, heading northwest	Henrietta Woo
14	1	Malcolm Park	Doreen Ang
15	1	Bidadari	Ferit Basbug
17	2	Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve	Douglas Ball
18	1	Bidadari	Teh Hong Tiong
21	1	Pasir Ris	Ananth Ramasamy
22	1	Pasir Ris	Ananth Ramasamy
23	1	Bukit Batok, 1:07pm	Zahidi Hamid
24	2	Tampines Eco Green, morning	Alvin Seng
26	7	Tampines Eco Green, morning	Tan Gim Cheong
27	1	Tampines Eco Green, noon	Chan Boon Hong
27	9	Tampines Eco Green, 7:30am to 10:30am	Low Choon How
27	10	Tampines Eco Green, morning	Lim Kim Keang
28	19	Kranji Marsh, 7am to 9:30am	Low Choon How

#### 4. Oriental Honey Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhyncus* (30)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
5	3	Mei Chin Road, <i>orientalis</i>	Tan Gim Cheong
5	1	Jalan Satu, near Dakota MRT, 6:35pm	Kerry Pereira
6	2	Pasir Ris Park, adult male <i>orientalis</i> at 2:28pm & <i>torquatus</i> tweeddale at 2:30pm	Henrietta Woo, Jacky Soh
6	1	Halus	Zhang Licong
7	1	Singapore, female <i>orientalis</i>	Jerome Pang
8	1	Singapore juvenile <i>orientalis</i>	Lian Yee Ming
11	2	Pasir Ris Park, <i>torquatus</i> , male tweeddale morph and female typical morph, morning	Tan Eng Boo
12	1	Newton HC car park, female <i>orientalis</i> , morning	Suresh Surenthiraraj
13	1	Bishan Park, female <i>orientalis</i>	Michael Chirlin
14	1	Malcolm Park	Doreen Ang
15	1	Botanic Gardens, <i>orientalis</i> , 2:10pm	Henrietta Woo, Linda Goh
15	1	Marina Barrage, juvenile <i>orientalis</i>	Ferit Basbug
17	2	Chancery Lane & Dunearn Road junction, heading northeast, 9:40am	Henrietta Woo
17	1	Clarke Quay, juvenile pale morph <i>orientalis</i>	Suresh Surenthiraraj
18	1	Raffles Building at Singapore Botanic Gardens, 1:30pm	Cyrena Lim, Felicia Tay, Claire Lim, Ooi Zongyu
19	1	National University of Singapore, behind Block S2, 1pm	Xu Weiting
20	1	Choa Chu Kang Park	Dirk Tomsa
21	2	Ang Mo Kio-Bishan Park, <i>orientalis</i>	Geoff Lim
21	1	Kranji Marsh, <i>orientalis</i>	Andrew Chow
24	1	Tampines Eco Green, female <i>orientalis</i> , morning	Alvin Seng
24	1	Satay by the Bay, female <i>orientalis</i>	Jeremiah Loei
25	1	Pasir Ris Town Park, adult male <i>orientalis</i>	Alvin Seng
26	1	Pasir Ris Town Park, adult male <i>torquatus</i> tweeddale morph	Alvin Seng

26	2	Tampines Eco Green	Lim Kim Keang
27	2	Tampines Eco Green	Wong Chung Cheong
27	1	Lorong Halus, dark morph, morning	Tan Kok Hui
27	3	Tampines Eco Green, female <i>orientalis</i>	Allvin Seng
27	1	Tampines Eco Green, female <i>orientalis</i> , noon	Chan Boon Hong
27	5	Tampines Eco Green, 7:30am to 10:30am	Low Choon How
28	1	Changi Boardwalk, <i>torquatus</i> tweeddale morph	Ho Junyi

#### 5. Chinese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter soloensis* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
18	1	Bidadari, juvenile with falconry jess on both tarsus	Teh Hong Tiong

#### 6. Japanese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter gularis* (5)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
6	1	Kranji Marsh	Low Choon How
13	1	Gymkhana Avenue, evening	Alan OwYong
20	1	Satay by the Bay, adult female	Cindy Yeo
21	1	Gymkhana Avenue, adult female	Francis Yap
21	1	Punggol Barat, female	Zahidi Hamid
27	1	Tampines Eco Green, adult male	Low Choon How, Nicholas Tan

#### 7. Common Buzzard *Buteo buteo* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
24	1	Changi, adult, evening	Muller Luqman

#### 8. Rufous-bellied Hawk-Eagle *Lophotriorchis kienerii* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
16	1	Labrador, juvenile, no photo, (possibility of confusion with juvenile CHE not ruled out)	Chung Yi Fei

#### 9. Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
7	1	Punggol Barat, male, evening	Zahidi Hamid
23	1	Punggol Barat, male	Joseph Tan Kok Beng, Alfred Ng

#### 10. Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* (4)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
6	1	Punggol Barat, evening	Zahidi Hamid
12	1	Serangoon Gardens, Kensington Park Condominium, migrant adult	Koh Weng Kong
27	1	Tuas, migrant adult, morning	Muller Luqman

28	1	Kranji Marsh, migrant adult in flight with prey, 7am to 9:30am	Low Choon How
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**11. Northern Boobook *Ninox japonica* (1)**

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1	1	Pasir Ris Park	Alvin Seng, Millie Cher, Angeline Yeo, Khong Yew
2	1	Pasir Ris Park, morning	Ananth Ramasamy, Saxon Liw



*Northern Boobook, Pasir Ris Park, 1 Feb 16, by Alvin Seng.*



## **Resident raptors**

### **12. Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus* (3)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Location and Details</b>	<b>Reported By</b>
9	1	Kranji Marsh	Henrietta Woo
27	2	Lorong Halus	Tan Kok Hui

### **13. Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus* (18)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Location and Details</b>	<b>Reported By</b>
1	1	United World College of South East Asia	Henrietta Woo
6	1	Pasir Ris Park	Henrietta Woo, Jacky Soh
8	1	Pulau Semakau	Henrietta Woo
8	2	Punggol Promenade next to Whisk & Paddle, mobbed by crow, 3pm	Kerry Pereira
8	2	Waterway Woodcress, 1 adult, 1 juvenile, 4:21pm	Kerry Pereira
9	2	Clementi Woods Park, 10:50am	Jaime Tan
11	1	United World College of South East Asia	Henrietta Woo
11	1	Tampines Eco Green, with Black-naped Oriole in talons, morning	Alvin Seng
13	2	NUS Kent Ridge, 1 adult, 1 juvenile	Henrietta Woo
14	2	Malcolm Park	Doreen Ang
15	1	Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve, adult	Ferit Basbug
16	1	Satay by the Bay, adult	Ferit Basbug
21	1	Ang Mo Kio-Bishan Park	Geoff Lim
22	2	Pekan Quarry, Pulau Ubin, 3:55pm	Kerry Pereira
27	1	Lorong Halus, morning	Tan Kok Hui
27	1	Pulau Ubin Sungei Ubin, 11:21am	Kerry Pereira
27	1	Pulau Ubin Wayang Stage, 12:40pm	Kerry Pereira

### **14. White-bellied Sea Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster* (15)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Location and Details</b>	<b>Reported By</b>
2	1	Valley Point towards Great World City, 9am	Zhang Licong
6	1	Pasir Ris Park	Henrietta Woo, Jacky Soh
8	2	Punggol Promenade next to Whisk & Paddle, juvenile, 3:09pm	Kerry Pereira
9	2	Kranji Marsh, 2 adults, 1 juvenile	Henrietta Woo
13	1	Bukit Timah Summit, immature	Nicholas Tan
13	3	NUS Kent Ridge	Henrietta Woo
14	1	Mandai mudflats, 10:22am	Kerry Pereira
18	1	Vivocity, 4:53pm	Sarah Martens
21	2	Singapore Quarry, morning	Ulf Remahl
21	1	Ang Mo Kio-Bishan Park	Geoff Lim
21	1	Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve, adult	Zhang Licong
22	2	Pekan Quarry, Pulau Ubin, 3:57pm	Kerry Pereira
24	1	Tampines Eco Green, immature, morning	Alvin Seng

25	1	Chinese Garden, immature, morning	Siew Mun
27	2	Lorong Halus, dark morph, morning	Tan Kok Hui
27	1	Pulau Ubin police post, 9:30am	Kerry Pereira
27	1	Pulau Ubin Sungei Ubin, juvenile, 11:21am	Kerry Pereira
27	1	Pulau Ubin Lotus Pond, 11:43am	Kerry Pereira
27	1	Pulau Ubin Wayang Stage, 12:40pm	Kerry Pereira
29	1	Tuas Naval Base, 3:10pm	Kerry Pereira
29	1	Chinese Garden, 4:24pm	Kerry Pereira

#### 15. Grey-headed Fish Eagle *Haliaeetus ichthyaetus* (7)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1	1	Kranji Marsh, adult	Lim Kim Chuah
3	1	Kranji Marsh, adult, morning	Tan Gim Cheong
5	2	Central Catchment Forest, morning	Zahidi Hamid
5	1	Mei Chin Road, adult flying with fish in talons	Tan Gim Cheong
9	1	Kranji Marsh	Henrietta Woo
14	1	Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve, adult	Ferit Basbug
22	2	Neo Tiew Lane 2	Wee Siewlin
23	1	MacRitchie Reservoir	Marcel Finlay
26	1	Bukit Batok Town Park (Little Guilin), young eagle perching in different spots, 11:45am to 1:40pm. Adults not seen.	Ulf Remahl

#### 16. Crested Serpent Eagle *Spilornis cheela* (2)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
24	1	Neo Tiew Road	Nicholas Tan, Cindy Yeo
28	1	Malcolm Park	Low Choon How

#### 17. Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus* (4)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
5	1	Bishan, adult	Kennie Goh
13	1	NTU, adult	Low Choon How
13	1	Bishan Park	Michael Chirlin
14	1	Botanic Gardens, at nest	Ender Tey
17	1	National Biodiversity Centre, Singapore Botanic Gardens, juvenile, perched for 1 hour	Henrietta Woo
22	1	National Biodiversity Centre, Singapore Botanic Gardens, juvenile, same perch as on 17th, with Plantain Squirrel prey	Henrietta Woo

#### 18. Changeable Hawk-Eagle *Nisaetus cirrhatus* (10)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1	1	Pasir Ris Park	Tan Gim Cheong
1	2	Mount Faber, adults, 1 dark morph and 1 pale morph	Tan Gim Cheong



2	1	Kranji Marsh, dark morph	Millie Cher
3	1	Lorong Halus, dark morph with prey, morning	Francis Yap
3	1	Kranji Marsh, pale morph	Tan Gim Cheong
3	1	Jurong Eco Garden, pale morph	Tan Gim Cheong
5	1	Central Catchment Forest, morning	Zahidi Hamid
6	1	Venus Drive, heard only	Henrietta Woo
14	1	PIE before exit to BKE, perched on lamp post, 7:45am	Kerry Pereira
18	1	Bidadari, juvenile pale morph	Teh Hong Tiong
21	1	Singapore Quarry, dark morph, morning	Ulf Remahl
22	1	Bukit Brown cemetery	Marcel Finlay
27	1	Punggol Barat, immature pale morph, 8am	Tan Kok Hui
27	1	Lorong Halus, dark morph chased by a crow, morning	Tan Kok Hui
27	1	Tampines Eco Green, dark morph, noon	Chan Boon Hong

### **19. Unidentified Raptors (2)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Location and Details</b>	<b>Reported By</b>
18	1	Toa Payoh, visited a nest, probably WBSE	Sorinder Singh
2	1	Pasir Ris Park	Peter Loh

### **20. Unidentified Accipiters (1)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Location and Details</b>	<b>Reported By</b>
4	1	Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve	Tan Gim Cheong

*Compiled by Tan Gim Cheong*

*Note: The numbers in brackets beside the bird names indicates the total number seen for this month. Different reports of the same raptors from the same area have been discounted to avoid duplication.*

*Many thanks to everyone who had reported their sightings in one way or another, and especially to Alfred Ng, Francis Yap, Lee Tiah Khee and Alvin Seng for the use of their photos.*